

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1           **Claim 1 (original):** A refrigerator comprising:  
2           a cabinet;  
3           a first refrigerated compartment within the cabinet having  
4           a door;  
5           a second refrigerated compartment within the cabinet;  
6           a dividing wall separating the first refrigerated  
7           compartment from the second refrigerated compartment;  
8           a duct connecting the first refrigerated compartment for  
9           airflow communication with the second refrigerated compartment;  
10          a damper movable between an open position and a closed  
11          position for controlling airflow within the duct;  
12          a refrigeration apparatus having a refrigeration cycle  
13          being measured from a first starting of the refrigeration  
14          apparatus to a second consecutive starting of the refrigeration  
15          apparatus, and an off cycle being a time within said  
16          refrigeration cycle during which the refrigeration apparatus is  
17          not operating;  
18          a controller for controlling the damper; and  
19          a door sensor connected to the controller for detecting  
20          when the door is open;  
21          wherein if the controller determines that the door has  
22          remained closed for a set number of refrigeration cycles, the  
23          controller maintains the damper in the closed position during a  
24          subsequent consecutive off cycle.

1           **Claim 2 (original):** The refrigerator of claim 1, wherein  
2           the refrigeration apparatus is a compressor.

1           **Claim 3 (original):** The refrigerator of claim 1, wherein  
2           the set number of refrigeration cycles is three.

1           **Claim 4 (original):** The refrigerator of claim 1, wherein  
2           the set number of refrigeration cycles is one.

1           **Claim 5 (previously presented):** An apparatus for  
2           controlling airflow between compartments in a two compartment  
3           refrigerator having a door, the apparatus comprising:  
4           a damper for opening and closing a duct between the two  
5           compartments of the refrigerator;  
6           a controller for controlling the opening and closing of the  
7           damper; and  
8           a door sensor connected to the controller for detecting  
9           when the door is open;  
10          wherein if the controller determines that the door has  
11          remained closed for a set period, the controller closes and/or  
12          maintains the damper in the closed position during a subsequent  
13          operation of a refrigeration apparatus.

1           **Claim 6 (original):** The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the  
2           two compartments comprise a frozen food compartment and a fresh  
3           food compartment, the door being associated with the fresh food  
4           compartment.

1           **Claim 7 (original):** The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the  
2           door sensor is a switch.

1           **Claim 8 (original):** The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the  
2           set period is a set number of on/off cycles of a compressor of  
3           the refrigerator.

1           **Claim 9 (original):** The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the  
2           set number of on/off cycles is three.

1           **Claim 10 (original):** A self defrosting refrigerator  
2           comprising:  
3           a cabinet;  
4           a first refrigerated compartment within the cabinet having  
5           a first door;  
6           a second refrigerated compartment within the cabinet having  
7           a second door;  
8           a dividing wall separating the first refrigerated  
9           compartment from the second refrigerated compartment;  
10          a duct connecting the first refrigerated compartment for  
11          airflow communication with the second refrigerated compartment;  
12          a damper movable between an open position and a closed  
13          position for controlling airflow within the duct;  
14          a refrigeration apparatus within the cabinet; and  
15          a controller for controlling the damper;  
16          wherein the controller carries out a damper cleaning  
17          operation in which the controller at least partially opens and

18 then at least partially closes the damper a set number of times  
19 at a set interval.

1 Claim 11 (original): The refrigerator of claim 10 wherein  
2 the controller carries out the damper cleaning operation prior  
3 to energizing an evaporator fan.

1 Claim 12 (original): The refrigerator of claim 10, further  
2 comprising a defrosting apparatus, wherein the controller carries  
3 out the damper cleaning operation subsequent to an operation of  
4 the defrosting apparatus.

1 Claim 13 (original): The refrigerator of claim 10, further  
2 comprising a defrosting apparatus, wherein the controller carries  
3 out the damper cleaning operation between an operation of the  
4 defrosting apparatus and a subsequent consecutive energizing of  
5 the evaporator fan.

1 Claim 14 (original): The refrigerator of claim 10, wherein  
2 during the cleaning operation the damper is moved from a fully  
3 open position to a fully closed position.

Claim 15 (canceled)

1 Claim 16 (currently amended): A ~~The~~ damper cleaning  
2 apparatus of claim 15 for a two compartment refrigerator having  
3 a damper for controlling airflow between compartments, the damper  
4 cleaning apparatus comprising:

5           a damper drive mechanism for opening and closing the  
6           damper; and  
7           a controller for controlling the damper drive mechanism  
8           wherein the controller carries out a cleaning operation by at  
9           least partially opening and then partially closing the damper a  
10          set number of times at a set interval, wherein the controller  
11          carries out the damper cleaning operation prior to an operation  
12          of the an evaporator fan of the refrigerator.

1           **Claim 17 (currently amended):**    ~~A~~ ~~The~~ damper cleaning  
2           ~~apparatus of claim 15 for a two compartment refrigerator having~~  
3           ~~a damper for controlling airflow between compartments, the damper~~  
4           ~~cleaning apparatus comprising:~~

5           a damper drive mechanism for opening and closing the  
6           damper; and  
7           a controller for controlling the damper drive mechanism  
8           wherein the controller carries out a cleaning operation by at  
9           least partially opening and then partially closing the damper a  
10          set number of times at a set interval, wherein the controller  
11          carries our the damper cleaning operation subsequent to a defrost  
12          operation of the refrigerator.

**Claim 18 (canceled)**

1           **Claim 19 (previously presented):**   A method for cleaning a  
2           damper in a refrigerator comprising steps of:  
3           at least partially opening the damper;  
4           following the step of opening, waiting for a set period and

5 then at least partially closing the damper;  
6 repeating the steps of at least partially opening and  
7 waiting a set number of times; and  
8 initiating a defrosting operation of the refrigerator prior  
9 to the step of opening.

1 **Claim 20 (previously presented):** A method for cleaning a  
2 damper in a refrigerator comprising steps of:  
3 at least partially opening the damper;  
4 following the step of opening, waiting for a set period and  
5 then at least partially closing the damper;  
6 repeating the steps of at least partially opening and  
7 waiting a set number of times; and  
8 commencing a cooling operation of the refrigeration  
9 apparatus following the step of repeating.

1 **Claim 21 (previously presented):** The refrigerator of claim  
2 1, wherein the controller opens the damper during an off cycle  
3 when the second refrigerated compartment requires cooling.

1 **Claim 22 (previously presented):** A refrigerator  
2 comprising:  
3 a cabinet;  
4 a first refrigerated compartment within the cabinet having  
5 a door;  
6 a second refrigerated compartment within the cabinet;  
7 a dividing wall separating the first refrigerated  
8 compartment from the second refrigerated compartment;

9           a duct connecting the first refrigerated compartment for  
10       airflow communication with the second refrigerated compartment;  
11           a damper movable between an open position and a closed  
12       position for controlling airflow within the duct;  
13           a refrigeration apparatus having a refrigeration cycle  
14       being measured from a first starting of the refrigeration  
15       apparatus to a second consecutive starting of the refrigeration  
16       apparatus, and an off cycle being a time within said  
17       refrigeration cycle during which the refrigeration apparatus is  
18       not operating;  
19           a controller for controlling the damper; and  
20           a door sensor connected to the controller for detecting  
21       when the door is open;  
22           wherein if the controller determines that the door been  
23       opened during a set number of prior refrigeration cycles, the  
24       controller opens the damper when the second refrigerated  
25       compartment requires cooling.